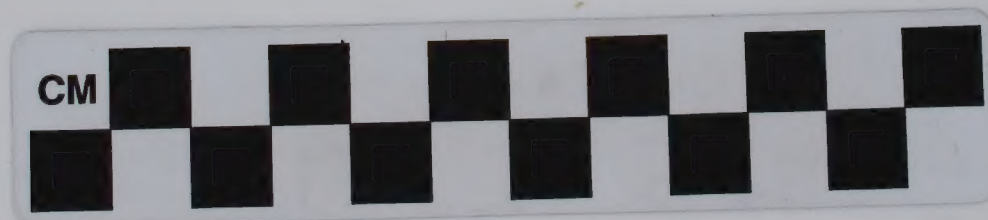


Miss Edith J. Hartzell  
402 Dewey Street  
Edgewood Park C. O.  
Knotville Pa  
of Mr. Stone      Pittsburgh

CM





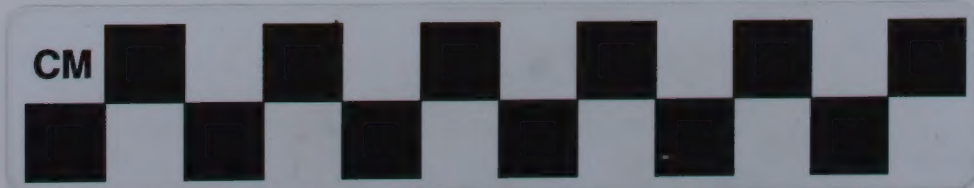
Feb 24 1902

Greensburg

My Dear Miss Hartzell

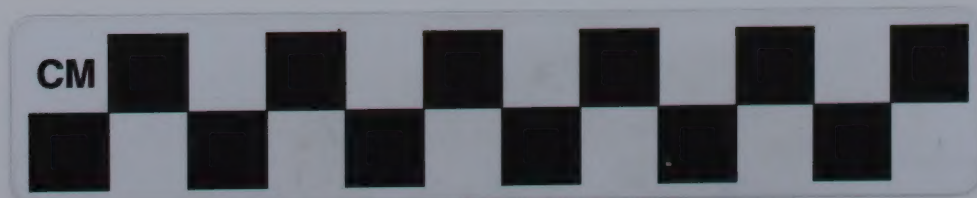
Thank you  
ever so much for your card and  
address I was wishing I knew  
where to write to you I have often  
wished I could speak to you again  
to me it seems years since my  
Bright Beautiful boy has gone  
home. yes Miss Hartzell I can think  
of him ~~now~~ as happier than  
we for he was a good boy but  
I have cried untill my eyes  
have become so weak and my  
health so bad ~~that~~ our Doctor  
told me unless I bore up better I  
would be an invalid for life  
then I came to think how sinful  
it was.

but my Dear Miss Hartzell  
you who have been to many





2  
Sick and death beds was it  
not hard I could not kiss his  
face not once or even hold his  
hand and my heart near broke  
when he said he never would  
forgive me yet I knew he had no  
cause to say that yet I think his  
mind held me in some way  
responsible for his misfortune yet  
I cant see how unless it was the  
last time he was home he had  
the offer of a position over here  
and when he was undecided what  
to do I sometimes feel if I had  
said take this offer here, but he  
had always decided those things  
for him self and I did not want  
to interfere had we been living up  
in our own house he would have  
come home I am sure but as  
it was he seemed to think there  
was no room. I wrote to Mrs  
Mellon and just addressed  
Homeopathic Hospital I dont





3

I know if she got it or not I  
 would so much like to know  
 what he tried to tell his Father  
 when she called him in after  
 he said good By to me and Oh  
 Mrs Hartzell if you know how I  
 long to know of his last hours  
 I lie in bed and think and think  
 long after his Father is asleep and  
 wonder if he thought he was going to  
 die and if he said any thing and  
 if he got wild after Charlie said  
 that to me I was so stunned that  
 I can't remember anything more  
 what I done or said except the  
 next morning when you were so  
 kind and spoke so kind to me  
 I can not remember if Mrs Mellon  
 spoke at all to me I remember I  
 ask the minister to pray in  
 the room where I was I could  
 not go in and I was afraid I  
 would cry out or do some thing  
 to make Charlie's unhappy one time

CM

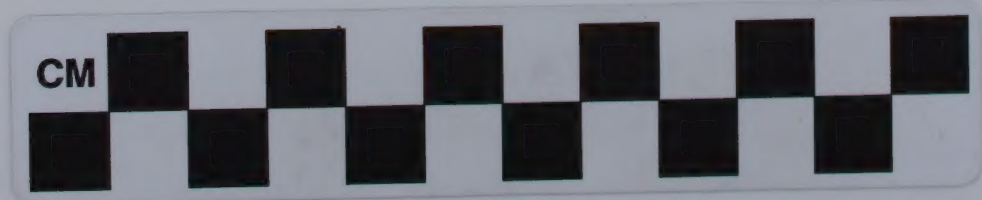


4 Long ago he said he thought it  
awful if one had to die that so  
much fuss was made he thought it  
would be hard enough to die with out  
people carrying on and my brain seem  
to contain nothing else but don't make  
no noise no fuss of any kind I feel  
so sorry that the Minister did not  
go in after wards or as I thought he  
would pray for him when he came  
I did not know that he did not  
pray at all in his room Miss Hartzah  
I did not think he was going to die  
untill supper time and I think then  
I lost all hope all nerve for I could  
not stay in with him and it is  
agony to me sometimes when I think  
perhaps he missed me but he did  
not want me to see him suffer I  
know that is why he was more  
restless when I was at his bed once  
when Dr Lilly was there he was  
telling him of a pain that was  
so bad on his chest after Dr





5- went away I ask him where it  
hurt him so and he said Oh it  
is near all gone now. he never  
would complain when he was home  
and he never wanted you to bother  
doing any thing when he was sick  
but Oh one thing that grieves me  
so was the morning that Crosby  
died Charlie begged me so to sit  
him on the rocking chair just a  
little while and I told him he  
could not I told him he had no  
clothes on he said I could wrap  
him in the blanket I still told  
him of course he could not when  
he turned his face from me and  
said mother you never done any  
thing I wanted you to do it is  
all right and I heard a sob in  
his voice Miss Hartzel had I  
known he was going to die I would  
have had him sit on the chair  
a few minutes if such a thing  
was possible I have had





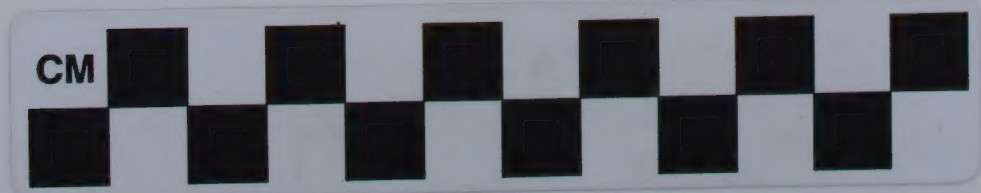
9  
trouble and trials in my  
twenty seven years of married  
life ups and downs and I  
always could laugh them away  
but I can't laugh this away I  
am always longing to see him  
and know what he said and  
done before he died and I think  
if some one would just sit down  
and tell me every thing I know how  
he must have suffered when he  
had to smother to death but God  
was justifying him for heaven and  
those he loves he chastizeth  
his sufferings were great his reward  
was greater will I bring the rest  
of my family so near him and  
will I have the same hope for  
them is my constant fear his  
was a lovely disposition always  
quiet never demonstrative he  
kissed me good by the last time  
he was home a thing he scarcely  
ever did to him giving good by





7

was allways very sorrowfull and  
he said the thought of giving  
good By took away the pleasure  
of coming home and how little  
I knew my boy except by his  
letters and while he was here with  
me just think he was only nineteen  
when he went away to Manila  
while he was there I knew how he  
loved me he could write it but never  
give way to it when home. well I  
must not bore you to much but  
if you know how I longed to  
speak to you or some one that  
was with him or knew of his  
last hours when I could not stay  
with him you would forgive  
this long letter if you get any  
time at all write me a few lines  
and tell me if you know what  
he tried to tell his Father and if  
he spoke about dying at all  
Good By you are doing a beautifull  
work. for he says was much as



as you have done it to these  
my servants you have done it  
unto me what precious words  
to bare you on your way.

God Bless you and all  
Good Nurses.

Yours Lovingly

Mrs J. F. Zimmerman  
478 S. Maple and  
Greensburg

P S

Gertrude lives 4068 Penn ave  
if you have time some time go  
out to see her she would be so  
pleased she is not very well just  
this now

J. F. Z

